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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

J1046 U.S. PTO
10/085618
03/01/02



In re Patent Application of

ARAKANE, T. et al.

Atty. Ref.: 2589-13

Serial No. unknown

Group:

Filed: March 1, 2002

Examiner:

For: MOBILE APPARATUS INCORPORATING A CAMERA
HAVING A HEAD STRAP FITTING PART

* * * * *

March 1, 2002

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

As suggested by 37 C.F.R. 1.97, the undersigned attorney brings to the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office the references listed on the attached form PTO-1449, a copy of each of which is enclosed. This is not to be construed as a representation that a search has been made or that no better prior art exists, or that a reference is relevant merely because cited.

The Examiner is requested to initial the attached form PTO-1449 and to return a copy of the initialed document to the undersigned as an indication that the attached references have been considered and made of record.

Respectfully submitted,

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MATERIAL FOR INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

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List of Prior Art References

- A. Japanese Patent Application Laid-Open No. H7-124014,
laid-open on May 16, 1995
- B. Japanese Patent No. P3210797, registered on July 13, 2001

Comments

Reference A

This reference discloses a camera with a hand strap having two cuts formed thereon so that changing a setting position of a hand strap is made easier in accordance with horizontal or vertical camera position. Although this reference and the present invention have a similarity in such a way that both inventions disclose the hand strap, the hand strap disclosed by this reference makes it possible to change the position of the hand strap without removing two strap belts from the camera so that the camera is firmly held for photographing regardless of the horizontal or vertical position of the camera. By contrast, the present invention discloses methods to keep the hand strap away from a field of view of a camera lens so as to prevent the hand strap from being accidentally photographed.

Reference B

This reference discloses a small sized electronic device having a hand strap. In order to prevent an external aesthetical appearance from being spoiled due to a presence of a hand

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strap mount part and to maintain the device well balanced when the device is suspended through the hand strap thereof, at substantially a center portion of an upper end of a rear panel of a housing, upper end corners are chamfered and an nearly L-shaped hole is formed through the rear panel. By contrast, the present invention discloses methods to keep the hand strap away from a field of view of a camera lens so as to prevent the hand strap from being accidentally photographed.

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